PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

AIRFRAME PLANT 31
AND
SOGANLUG AIRFIELD
TBILISI, USSP



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31 DECEMBER 1957

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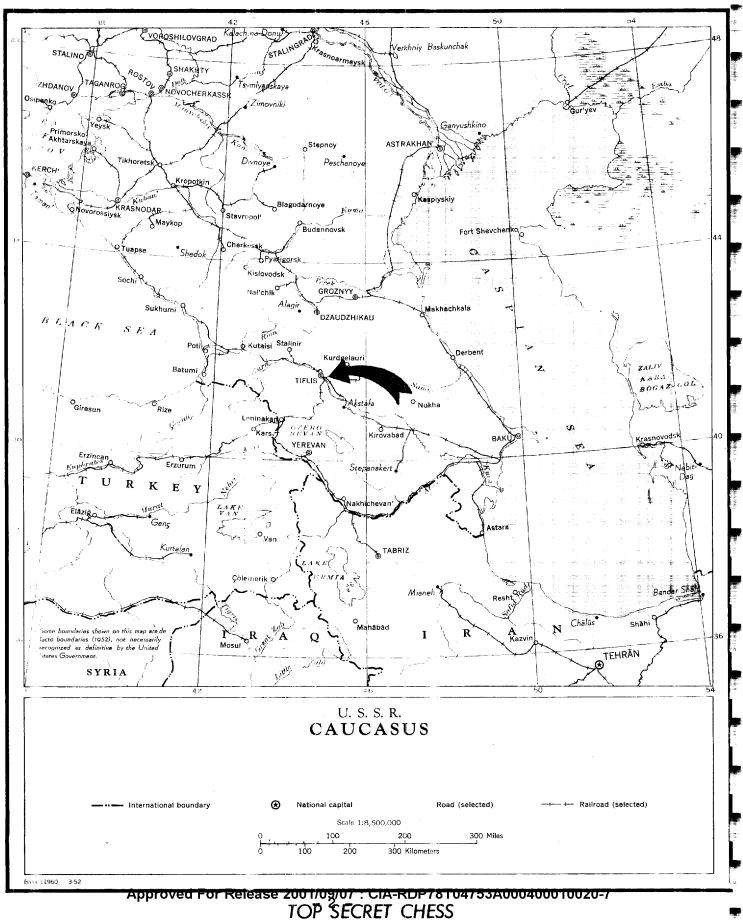
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This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, USC, Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. AIRFRAME PLANT 31 AND SOGANLUG AIRFIELD TBILISI, USSR

HTA/M-56/57

31 DECEMBER 1957

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AIRFRAME PLANT 31 AND SOGANLUG AIRFIELD TBILISI, USSR

Airframe Plant 31, a major producer of Soviet jet fighter aircraft, is located on the southeast edge of Tbilisi (Tiflis), about 80 miles from the Turkish border.

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This plant, covered by photography, occupies an area approximately 3000 by 2000 feet. It has undergone little change since the previous aerial photographic cover in The only apparent new buildings are a boiler house, an administrative building, and two large warehouses.

Soganlug Airfield, the test and flyaway field for the aircraft plant, is located two miles southeast of the plant. The only significant change in this airfield since has been the concrete surfacing of the previous sod runway which now measures 6,000 feet long by 270 feet wide. Little activity is apparent in the airfield area. Two twin-engine transports (CABS) are parked near the runway and the tail of one probable fighter aircraft is protruding from the seven-bay nose hangar.

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The major components of the airframe plant and the adjoining airfield, are identified and described on the accompanying annotated photograph and key to annotations.

KEY TO ANNOTATIONS

- 1. Assembly building, single-story, 900' x 600', including a 500' x 85' final assembly section.
- 2. Firing-in butt. New since One Fresco is observed in this area.
- 3. Sub-assembly building, single-story, 800' x 350'.
- 4. Workshop, single story, 275' x 60'.
- 5. Storage building, single-story, 335' x 45'. New since
- 6. Main road entrance to plant.
- 7. Administration building, single-story, T-shaped, 240' x 60' and 70' x 35'. New since
- 8. Compressor building, two-story, 155' x 70'.
- 9. Foundry, single-story, 145' x 120', with adjoining 75' x 35' wing.
- 10. Storage building area (new since Contains one two-story building, 105' x 70' with a single-story 70' x 35' wing, and the following eight-single story buildings: three 105' x 35'; two 340' x 105', with four rail spurs alongside; and one each 180' x 85', 360' x 165', and 270' x 35'.

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- 11. Boiler house, single-story, 120' x 70'. This building, although listed in the Bombing Encyclopedia as Tbilisi Thermal Power Plant "Airframe" apparently only furnishes heat and steam to the aircraft plant.
- 12. Engineering/Administration building, 4-story, $410^{\circ} \times 85^{\circ}$, with two 3-story wings, $130^{\circ} \times 85^{\circ}$.
- 13. Engineering/Administration building, 4-story, 370" x 35'.
- 14. Loading platform, concrete, 275' x 110', with four rail spurs alongside.
- 15. Storage area, partially fenced: Contains 5 single-story storage buildings, 180' x 45', 145' x 35', 110' x 25', 105' x 70', 105' x 45'; water storage tank, 45' diameter, rail served; and open storage throughout the area.
- 16. Rail entrance to installation.

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- 17. Raod entrance. Road leads to Tbilisi/Soganlug Airfield
- 18. Sawmill area, partially fenced: sawmill, single-story 105' x 35', and two single-story storage buildings, each 105' x 35'. Lumber piles throughout area. Rail served.
- 19. Probable flight production building, single-story, 220' x 140'.
- 20. Road to Tbilisi Airframe Plant 31.
- 21. Administration building, single-story, L-shaped, 80' x 25' and 60' x 25'.
- 22. Two personnel buildings, single-story, $155' \times 50'$ (with control tower), and $130' \times 50'$.

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- 23. Small radio facility, consisting of small shack and a single stick antenna.
- 24. Nose hangar (with 7 bays), single-story 280' x 45' with small shops at each end. Concrete apron 280' x 35'.
- 25. Communication facility, consisting of twelve short stick antennas.
- 26. Parking apron, 1900' x 120', concrete.
- 27. Runway: length, 6,000'; width, 270'; surface, concrete; orient-ation, NW/SE.
- 28. Hardstand, 130' diameter, concrete.

Aircraft on field: 2 CABS, plus one probable fighter in nose hangar.



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REQUIREMENT: Prepared in answer to RR/HTA/E/R59/57 requesting a description of Tbilisi Airframe Plant 31 and the adjoining airfield.

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REFERENCE:

25X**↑ ATMP**:

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10MA, 1st Ed., May 1951 10MA, 1st Ed., Jan 1952 25MA, 2nd Ed., June 1952 100MA, 2nd Ed., June 1951

COORDINATES: 41°40'N 44°53'E

B.E. NUMBERS:

Tbilisi Airframe Plant 31Tbilisi/Soganbug Airfield

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